

softball, and basketball games, and working with the "Chain Gang" at Waterford High School football games. He was also a member of the Waterford Democratic Town Committee and the New London Lodge of Elks, and was the president of the New London Central Labor Union.

I met Kevin through his association with the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, where, since 1990, he was a Grand Lodge Representative serving not only Connecticut, but New York, New Jersey, and all of New England. I am grateful for all of the occasions that we had to work together, and I especially appreciate the support he gave me over the years.

Kevin was a loyal union man since joining the IAM while working for General Dynamics in 1969. He earned respect throughout Connecticut and the Northeast for standing up for the rights and interests of workers. He was known as a good leader, and a skilled and effective negotiator as well. There are so many people in factories across the Northeast, and nationwide, who have never met Kevin Pope, but their lives are better off today because of his efforts.

Kevin represented the best of the State of Connecticut. I know I speak for a great many people in Connecticut when I say that he was taken from us much too soon.

Once again, my thoughts and prayers go out to Kevin's family, his friends, and his colleagues. We will all miss him very much.●

MARKING THE SERVICE OF JOHN ALEXANDER ANDERSON

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise to express my appreciation to John Alexander Anderson, my senior policy advisor. John has been an important member of my staff. His counsel and efforts will be missed.

As my senior advisor on banking, finance, trade, and transportation issues, John managed policy initiatives and assisted me on numerous legislative accomplishments. He was also my liaison to the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

John has been a tireless advocate for policies that promote economic growth, sound government, and financial deregulation. He has a keen comprehension of banking law and understands its impact on markets, investments, and business decisions. He has helped me fight numerous unsound financial initiatives, such as our recent success in protecting derivatives products from unnecessary Federal regulation. He has always been a critical advocate of good policy, including lowering Federal taxes and implementing market-opening trade agreements.

Prior to joining my staff, John served as a legislative assistant to Representative Jack Metcalf of Washington. Before his tenure with Congressman Metcalf, John worked for the

Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Beyond his professional qualifications, John has an astute political sense and outstanding personal qualities. His loyalty, intellectual independence, talent for reaching consensus and his tactical ability to realize desired outcomes are all characteristics recognized and admired by his peers. He shares my political philosophy and commitment to the principles of limited government and open markets. John proves that the old tag line—better government through better people—is still on the mark.

It is rewarding to see John embrace a new challenge with the leadership and integrity that he demonstrated as a member of my staff. As he enters a new phase, I know my Senate colleagues will join me in acknowledging John's dedicated service as a congressional staffer and wish him every success in his future role. I will miss his counsel but I know John will remain a valued friend and advisor.●

LEADERS IN STEWARDSHIP

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about some Oregonians who are real leaders in environmental stewardship, the Bailey family of The Dalles, OR. Their family-owned and operated cherry operation, Orchard View Farms, is renowned for its high standards, both in product quality and in environmental management. Orchard View Farms was established in 1923 in the heart of Oregon's cherry growing region, the mid-Columbia Gorge area nestled in the foothills of Mt. Hood.

The Baileys have worked hard to ensure their operation is a good neighbor the environment and the surrounding community. They have championed the Mid-Columbia cherry Integrated Fruit Program, a total farm conservation plan that is modeled on a similar program in northern Italy. The Integrated Fruit Program, or IFP, encompasses all aspects of fruit production, from growing to packing and marketing. IFP emphasizes high quality fruit production that is economical for the grower and has a minimal impact to the environment. This requires careful placement of orchard plants, close monitoring of soil moisture levels and nutrients to avoid unnecessary irrigation or excess fertilizers. There is also an emphasis on non-chemical means of controlling plant pests and disease. The end result is more than 3000 tons of Ranier and Bing cherries that the Baileys ship to markets across the country and to Europe and Asia every year. Their accomplishments have not gone unnoticed by the farm conservation community—the American Farmland Trust recognized the Bailey family last year with its prestigious Steward of the Land Award.

In addition to their important work in the area of farm conservation, the Baileys have also worked closely with my office in the past on the chal-

lenging problem of reforming the agricultural guest worker program.

I am speaking about Orchard View Farms today to remind my colleagues that every day farm families like the Baileys are working hard to make a living in farming, ranching, or forestry in a way that is good for their community and good for the environment. They take their stewardship responsibilities seriously and deserve our commendation for adhering to these principles, especially in a time of unprecedented economic challenges for farmers in the form of increasing food imports and numerous regulatory mandates. I think we can all be proud of families like the Baileys who are truly leaders in environmental stewardship and demonstrate how American agriculture can succeed in this increasingly competitive global food market.●

SCOTT COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I pay tribute to the Scott County Fire Department and its personnel for their progress in providing outstanding fire protection for the citizens of Scott County. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed.

Through the leadership of Scott County Fire Chief Billy Willhoite, the amount of full-time firefighters over the past 10 years has doubled. The efforts of full-time and volunteer firefighters alike along with increased investment in manpower, equipment, training, and facilities, have enabled the department to make great strides in serving their fellow Kentuckians. Billy Willhoite's 29 years of experience as a firefighter, 25 of which were as chief, have enabled him to shape the personnel of the Scott County Fire Department to make great strides in their firefighting capabilities.

While funding is a significant component to fire protection, no dollar sign can be placed on the bravery, courage, and commitment inherent of those who put themselves into harm's way to protect those in danger. The firefighters of the Scott County Fire Department are heroes to so many and deserve our gratitude. At a moment's notice, they can be relied upon to respond to any emergency regardless of the circumstances to assure the safety of those in need.

As our Nation takes measures to strengthen our homeland security, it will be imperative that fire departments throughout Kentucky and across America follow the example of the Scott County Fire Department and adapt to improve fire protection services. I am proud of their efforts and am grateful for how well they have represented the Commonwealth. I thank the Senate for allowing me to recognize the Scott County Fire Department and its personnel for their service to their community and to our Nation. They are Kentucky at its finest.●